

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Original) An automotive information system, comprising:
2 a main unit having means for detecting a start signal, and means for turning on a
3 power supply to said main unit in response to said start signal; and
4 at least one device connected to said main unit and having means for detecting
5 that a predetermined condition has been satisfied, and means for sending said start signal to said
6 main unit.

1 2. (Original) An automotive information system according to Claim 1, wherein said
2 main unit includes means operative when said power supply is turned on in response to said start
3 signal, for inquiring said device whether said device has sent the start signal, and wherein said
4 device has means for answering the inquiry.

1 3. (Previously Presented) An automotive information system according to Claim 1,
2 wherein said main unit and said device are connected by system cable means comprising:
3 a first power line that enables electrical power to be supplied from said main unit
4 to said device when the power supply to said main unit has been turned on;
5 a data line for enabling exchange of data between said main part and said device;
6 a second power line for enabling backup power to said device at least when the
7 power supply to said main unit has not been turned on; and
8 a signal line for transmitting said start signal from said device to said main unit.

1 4. (Original) An automotive information system comprising a main unit, and a
2 security control unit and a wireless telephone unit that are connected to said main unit,
3 wherein said security control unit includes:

a sensor for sensing an extraordinary event; and means for sending a start signal to said main unit;

wherein said main unit includes:

means for detecting said start signal; means operative to turn on power supply to said main unit in response to said start signal; and means for sending, when said power supply is turned on in response to said start signal received from said security control unit, a notification request signal to said wireless telephone unit to request said wireless telephone unit to send a notification of occurrence of the extraordinary event; and

wherein said wireless telephone unit includes:

means for detecting said notification request signal; and

means for activating the telephone function of said wireless telephone unit in response to said notification request signal to notify a user of the occurrence of the extraordinary event.

5. (Original) An automotive system comprising a main unit, a wireless telephone unit connected to said main unit, a speaker, and a microphone;

wherein said wireless telephone unit includes:

means for detecting receipt of a telephone call; and

means for sending a start signal to said main unit upon detection of the receipt of the telephone call;

wherein said main unit includes:

means for detecting said start signal;

means for turning on power supply to said main unit in response to said start signal;

means for informing a user of the receipt of the telephone call when said power supply to said main unit is turned on in response to said start signal received from said wireless telephone unit;

means for detecting a responding operation of the user for responding to the telephone call; and

means for sending, when said responding operation is detected, connecting instruction to said wireless telephone unit to request said wireless telephone unit to connect the telephone call to said main unit;

said wireless telephone unit further includes:

means for detecting said connecting instruction; and

means responsive to said connecting instruction, for connecting the telephone call to said main unit; and

wherein said main unit further includes means for enabling the user to communicate with the telephone caller by means of said speaker and said microphone.

6. (Original) A method of controlling an automotive information system having a main unit and at least one device connected to said main unit, said method comprising the steps of:

enabling said device to detect that a predetermined condition has been satisfied;

causing said device to send a start signal to said main unit when the satisfaction of said predetermined condition is detected;

7 causing said main unit to detect said start signal; and
8 enabling said main unit to turn on power supply to said main unit in response to
9 said start signal.

1 7. (Original) A method according to Claim 6, further comprising the steps of:
2 causing, when the power supply is turned on in response to said start signal, said
3 main unit to send an inquiry to said device to inquire whether said device has sent the start
4 signal; and
5 enabling said device to answer the inquiry.

1 8. (Original) A method of controlling an automotive information system having a
2 main unit, and a security control unit and a wireless telephone unit that are connected to said
3 main unit, said method comprising the steps of:
4 enabling said security control unit to sense an extraordinary event;
5 causing, when the extraordinary event is sensed, said security control system to
6 send a start signal to said main unit;
7 enabling said main unit to detect said start signal;
8 enabling said main unit to turn on power supply to said main unit in response to
9 said start signal;
10 causing, when said power supply is turned on in response to said start signal
11 received from said security control unit, said main unit to send a notification request signal to
12 said wireless telephone unit to request said wireless telephone unit to send a notification of
13 occurrence of the extraordinary event;
14 causing said wireless telephone unit to detect said notification request signal; and

15 activating a telephone function of said wireless telephone unit in response to said
16 notification request signal to notify a user of the occurrence of the extraordinary event.

1 9. (Original) A method of controlling an automotive system having a main unit, a
2 wireless telephone unit connected to said main unit, a speaker, and a microphone, said method
3 comprising the steps of:

4 enabling said wireless telephone unit to detect receipt of a telephone call;

5 causing said wireless telephone unit to send a start signal to said main unit upon
6 detection of the receipt of the telephone call;

7 enabling said main unit to detect said start signal;

8 enabling said main unit to turn on power supply to said main unit in response to
9 said start signal;

10 enabling said main unit to inform a user of the receipt of the telephone call when
11 said power supply to said main unit is turned on in response to said start signal received from
12 said wireless telephone unit;

13 enabling said main unit to detect a responding operation of the user for
14 responding to the telephone call;

15 causing said main unit to send connecting instruction to said wireless telephone
16 unit to request said wireless telephone unit to connect the telephone call to said main unit;

17 causing said wireless telephone unit to detect said connecting instruction; and

18 causing said wireless telephone unit to connect the telephone call to said main
19 unit in response to said connecting instruction; and

20 causing said main unit to enable the user to communicate with the telephone
21 caller by means of said speaker and said microphone.

1 10. (Original) An information processing apparatus, comprising a main unit and at
2 least one device connected to said main unit, wherein said device includes:

3 means for detecting that a predetermined condition has been satisfied; and means
4 for sending a start signal to said main unit upon detection of satisfaction of the predetermined
5 condition; and

6 wherein said main unit includes:

7 means for detecting said start signal;

8 means for turning on power supply to said main unit in response to said start
9 signal; and

10 means for inquiring, when the power supply is turned on in response to said start
11 signal, said device whether said device has sent said start signal; and

12 wherein said device includes means for answering the inquiry.

1 11. (Currently Amended) An automotive information system cable for connecting
2 main unit of an automotive information system and a device included in said automotive
3 information system, comprising:

4 a first power line that enables electrical power to be supplied from said main unit
5 to said device when the power supply to said main unit has been turned on;

6 a data line for enabling exchange of data between said main part and said device;

7 a second power line for enabling backup power to said device at least when the
8 power supply to said main unit has not been turned on; and

9 a signal line for transmitting a start signal from said device to said main unit.

1 12. (Original) An electronic device to be connected to a control unit of an automotive
2 information system, comprising:

3 means for detecting that a predetermined condition has been satisfied;

4 means for sending a start signal to said control unit upon detection of satisfaction
5 of said predetermined condition; and

6 means for answering an inquiry given by said control unit as to whether said
7 electronic device has sent said start signal.

1 13. (Original) An automotive information system control unit implementing an
2 automotive information system in cooperation with at least one electronic device connected
3 thereto, said automotive information system control unit comprising:

4 means for detecting a start signal sent from said electronic device;

5 means for turning on power supply to said main unit upon detection of the start
6 signal; and

7 means for inquiring, when the power supply is turned on in response to said start
8 signal, said electronic device whether said electronic device has sent said start signal.

1 14.-30. (Cancelled)

1 31. (Previously Presented) An automotive information system according to Claim 2,
2 wherein said main unit and said device are connected by system cable means comprising:

3 a first power line that enables electrical power to be supplied from said main unit
4 to said device when the power supply to said main unit has been turned on;

- 5 a data line for enabling exchange of data between said main part and said device;
- 6 a second power line for enabling backup power to said device at least when the
- 7 power supply to said main unit has not been turned on; and
- 8 a signal line for transmitting said start signal from said device to said main unit.